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(b) who fixes the prices at depots of timber run by the Government as per particulars in Form 34 of the Administration Report of the Forest Department?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—" (a) No regular record is maintained. Timber extracted departmentally in both the divisions are sold in public auction and the sale records will serve the purpose of the market price of timber

" (b) There are no depots wherein timber is sold at fixed rates as all sales are held by public auction or by calling for tenders if public auctions fail to fetch reasonable prices. Presumably the member refers to the valuation in Form 35 (not Form 34) of the administration report; if so, the valuation is based on the average rates obtained in the division, during the year."

Price of paddy given to janmies in Malabar

*611 Q.—SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have fixed the price of paddy to be given to janmies by pattamdars and tenants in Malabar and, if so, what it is?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" No. Under sub-section (1) of section 51 of the Malabar Tenancy Act, the Collector of the district has to publish every month in the District Gazette, the current market price of paddy, etc., at the headquarters of each taluk and under sub-section (2) of that section, where the rent or michavaram payable in kind is to be paid in money, the paddy, etc., should be valued for the purpose of determining the sum due at the market price at the taluk headquarters last published under sub-section (1). There was some delay in publishing the price as required by the above section in Malabar district after the commencement of the Malabar Tenancy (Amendment) Act, 1951, on 15th March 1952. Instructions have been issued to the Collectors to see that the price is published every month in future without fail."

Recruitment of Senior Inspectors of Co-operative Societies in 1952.

*612 Q.—DR. K. B. MENON: Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government advertised for Senior Inspectors of Co-operative Societies in 1952;

(b) how many did the Government advertise for;

(c) how many the Government selected; and

(d) how many the Government appointed?

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THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA:—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) The Public Service Commission first invited applications for six vacancies. Subsequently, in April 1952, Government sanctioned the special recruitment of 100 Senior Inspectors. As, in response to its advertisement for six vacancies, the Commission received applications from about 570 candidates for the post of Senior Inspectos, it did not call for fresh applications for filling up the later vacancies.

" (c) 106, Sir.

" (d) 106 were appointed by the Registrar."

Co-operative societies for handloom weavers.

* 613 Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what steps have been taken to implement the scheme for helping handloom weavers by formation of co-operative societies, promised by the Hon. Minister for Finance in his last Budget speech;

(b) the amount of money advanced or utilized for this scheme; and

(c) the number of co-operative societies formed and the number of members enrolled and benefited?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" (a) In June 1952, the Government sanctioned a Scheme for the relief of distress among handloom weavers in this State through the agency of co-operative societies. The Scheme assures the weavers of a subsistence wage and of continuous employment and also relieves them from the burden of marketing of cloth as far as possible. According to the scheme, weavers outside the co-operative fold have been admitted into the existing weavers' co-operative societies by advancing them interest-free loans at the rate of Rs. 25 each to enable them to pay the necessary share capital. The scheme has so far been introduced in 17 districts.

" (b) A sum of Rs. 1,21,610 has been disbursed towards interest-free loans. The central banks advanced a sum of Rupees 23,90,802 towards working capital to the weavers' co-operative societies working the relief scheme.

" (c) The following new societies were organized under the scheme besides working the scheme in some of the existing societies:—

(1) Chambal Weavers' Co-operative Society—Malabar district.

(2) Peria Veerasinghli Weavers' Co-operative Society—Coimbatore district.

(3) Jakkampatti Weavers' Co-operative Society—Madurai district,